



BALDWIN UNION FREE SCHOOL

BALDWIN EDUCATIONAL ASSEMBLY 2015-2016 BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE FINAL COMMITTEE REPORT

CHAIRPERSON:

The committee designated Mrs. Jackie Zuckerman as the Committee Chair.

SECRETARY:

The committee designated Mr. Carl Williams as the Recording Secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

| | |
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| • Susan Degraff | • Carl Williams |
| • Lori Fitzpatrick | • Beverly Worell |
| • James Goveia | • Jackie Zuckerman |
| • Robert Kugelmass | • |

BEA EXECUTIVE BOARD LIASONS TO THE COMMITTEE:

Carl Williams & Jackie Zuckerman

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON TO THE COMMITTEE:

Dr. Stephen Draper, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Administrative Services

2015-2016 CHARGES TO THE COMMITTEE:

- Charge 1. Form a subcommittee to research educational foundations that fund special projects that cannot be funded within the regular school budget. This committee would receive a "Wish List" that would contain one shot items such as technology, Inquiry Centers, science labs, a television studio, etc. The committee would provide us with a report that would answer the following questions:
- What other school districts have these foundations?
 - How are they set up? How do they work?
 - What kinds of fundraisers have been done to generate funds?
 - How successful have the fundraisers been?
 - What are the pros and cons of having a foundation like this in Baldwin?

- Charge 2. Analyze the revenue constraints faced by the district for 2016-17 budget and their implications for proposed expenditure budget.
- Charge 3. Analyze the results of the exit poll conducted during the 2015-16 Budget Referendum. Revise the questionnaire for the 2016-17 budget. Conduct the poll during the May 2016 referendum and collect the results and create a presentation for the BoE.

CHARGE#1; NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH FOUNDATIONS:

We contacted all 56 Nassau County School District Clerks. We received 17 responses with contact names, websites and some specific examples. The following are highlights from the ten (10) positive responses. At the end of this report, you will find a spreadsheet with the comprehensive information.

1. Bethpage

1. Any associated educational & off budget foundations. Bethpage does have an independent Bethpage Educational Foundation whose mission is support creativity in our schools.
2. Special fund projects not funded within the regular budget. They supplement various projects and scholarships. Projects are in the areas of STEM, literacy, technology and much is in the way of Teacher Mini-Grants.
3. Is your school district financially supported by local independent foundations? They donate about \$20,000 a year to the district.
4. Does your school district raise funds for any special fund projects outside the regular school budget? No.

What is the Bethpage Educational Foundation?

The Bethpage Educational Foundation is an organization that seeks to provide meaningful assistance to the educational program in the Bethpage Schools. We support programs for students, teachers, and parents. We are a non-profit with a charter recognized by New York State and the Internal Revenue Service.

How are you funded?

So far, the Foundation raises money through various fundraisers and via contact with alumni students and teachers. Our most successful program to date was the "Battle at Bethpage" where we hosted a Men's' NCAA Lacrosse Game between Duke and Denver! We have also sponsored "Dancing with the Teachers" and the "Bethpage Tara Costa Run and Health Fair." Alumni have been approaching us about donations from class reunions and organizing thematic reunions such as a "Potpourri Night" with "50 years of Masquers' Guild" alumni. We

are also looking at golf outings, dinners, and a more aggressive outreach program to parents and alumni.

What do you do with the money raised?

The Foundation puts all of that money back into the Bethpage Schools. We recently assisted the district with the purchase of a piano for JFK, support for the Challenge Day experience for all high school sophomores, and the mentoring program at Bethpage High School. We continue to underwrite all of the 21st Century Scholarships for this year's graduating class. Through a grant we received from the Verizon Foundation, we are sponsoring writing projects via the K-12 21st Century program and we are assisting the district to pilot the new Achieve 3000 Literacy Program at John F. Kennedy. Our Mini-grants for Teachers program, challenged teachers to think of classroom resources they could use to engage students in new ways. We supported grants in each of the five schools in the district.

Who runs the Foundation?

The Bethpage Educational Foundation has been around for about three years. The current Board of Directors would like to see a larger group of alumni (including representatives from all different years) and parents assume new leadership roles for the Foundation and work with the district in setting new goals and recruiting more members.

2. Carle Place School District

Carle Place Educational Foundation

The Carle Place Educational Foundation Inc., was formed to foster a partnership among school, business and the community for the betterment of the Carle Place Schools.

The Foundation is dedicated to providing educational enhancements by securing private resources to meet our goals.

The Foundation is a private not-for-profit corporation independent of the Carle Place Schools.

During the past four years, the Carle Place Educational Foundation has been involved in a number of fundraising and school related events. These include: An Evening of Fine Arts; Flag Day Ceremonies; Fall Fundraisers; Academic Hall of Fame; Academic Award Ceremonies; Fashion Shows; Robotics Pep Rally; Premier Performances.

Donations and Institutional Giving

The Carle Place Educational Foundation provides "challenge grants" to teachers for innovative programs designed to enhance the quality of education to all our Carle Place students. They also provide scholarships to students who exhibit a commitment to their school and community. All monies received are distributed solely for the benefit of Carle Place students and the Carle Place Schools.

3. Hewlett-Woodmere School District

Hewlett-Woodmere is supported by the Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools Endowment Fund which is an independent not-for-profit with its own governing Board. The District makes use of the following reserve funds: Long Range Building Improvement Funds for technology and building renovations (voter approved and voter approval necessary for spending) within Capital Fund. Repair Reserve Funds for athletic facilities and building repairs (Board hearing and resolution necessary for spending without a requirement to put funds back through general fund appropriations). These are General Fund Reserves.

4. Jericho School District

Jericho does have an educational foundation (Jericho Educational Foundation) that operates independently of the school district. The foundation has been in existence for over 20 years and successfully raises funds to support the school district.

5. Long Beach School District

The Long Beach SD applies for and receives grant monies from various sources. The Long Beach SD does not hit up corporations for donations.

6. Manhasset School District

BEA- Jackie Zuckerman
District- Manhasset- Summary of Conversation
Date-2-4-16

Spoke with Rosemary Johnson, Deputy Superintendent for Business

Do you have foundation?
Tower- raised 1,5 million since founded in 1991
501C3 Corp

Mission
To enrich educational opportunities in the Manhasset School District

How is it set up?
Community based
Board of Directors
Annual applications - reach out to school district personnel

Who decides?
Board of Directors meet with district personnel and Superintendent - board makes decisions

How do you raise money?
Two or three big events
Raise funds from private sector, individuals, families, and businesses
GALA at a country club
Champions for Charity - they get all the businesses at the Americana Mall to let customers select a charity for a selected shopping weekend.
Tower gets more money when the community is passionate about the project

Where do they meet?
School District room

What have you funded?
Foreign Language Learning Center- computers
Library Media Center
Wireless infrastructure all schools
Outdoor physical ed stations and recess areas in all schools
Upgraded sound system in the auditorium
Laptops and loan program for those that cannot afford laptops
Upgraded the Graphics Arts Lab with Apple computers and screens
Upgraded the Keyboard Lab in the Music Dept.
Chromebooks for all ELA classrooms in the High School

Other
"Volunteerism has been down in recent years"

Any other advice?
"Make the project sexy- project has to grab the community"

7. North Shore School District

1. Any associated educational & off budget foundations.

The Viking Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to enriching the educational experience of students in the North Shore School District and securing their future. The website is www.nsvikings.org

2. Special fund projects not funded within the regular budget.

Projects funded by the Viking Foundation include the construction of a television and recording studio on the High School Campus, and a significant contribution to the construction of our stadium field and concession stand.

3. Is your school district financially supported by local independent foundations?

Yes, The Viking Foundation

4. Does your school district raise funds for any special fund projects outside the regular school budget?

Yes, through the Arts and Athletics Booster Clubs and the Viking Foundation.

8. Port Washington School District

There are two organizations in Port Washington that supplement rather than supplant the General Fund budget. The ED Foundation has been in existence for approximately 15 years. They provide "mini grants" that are reviewed by the Foundation, the Superintendent of Schools and the Asst. Supt. for Curriculum. Overall they gift approximately \$65,000 - \$80,000 per fiscal year. The second group, HEARTS (an arts group 501c3) has been in existence about three years and has also used the "mini grant" format providing donations totaling between \$22,000 - \$39,000.

BEA- Jackie Zuckerman
District- Port Washington- Summary of Conversation
Date-2-3-16

Spoke with Dr. Westervelt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum

Do you have foundation?
Two Foundations ED and Hearts
Hearts is for the Arts and ED for everything else.

How is it set up?
Community based
Both offer grants
Annual applications open to students, community teachers and administrators
Applications must be signed off by principal, director of technology or director of facilities
(depending on who it will need to know about request)

Who decides?
Director of Creative Arts and Superintendent of Curriculum reviews the applications and makes
initial recommendations
Board of Directors meet with Superintendent of Curriculum and Superintendent - board makes
decisions but they honor recommendations from Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum.

How do you raise money?
Two or three big events
"Best one is the Amazing Race"
Teams of students, teachers, administrators, community members, sign up and given passport with
tasks: . . .
Must go to the place of business and perform task and get passport stamped. No cars allowed. "Lots
of participants- fun for community."
GALA at the Village Club in Sands point on a Fri evening - most administrators and teachers also
attend.

Where do they meet?
At bank in town - conference room

Is community allowed to attend meetings?
"I don't know"

What have you funded?
Ballroom dancing for all 5th graders - 10 sessions and a competition
Early morning Physical Ed exercise program for elementary school students
ESL in Middle school- Teaching English through bird watching
Theatre productions for 4th and 5th grades - money used for props and teacher stipends
Other

-They are allowed to buy things for the district as long as it is tied to an idea.
-They can combine school district budget with grant money for projects

Any other advice?
"I can't stress enough the importance of a collaborative relationship"

9. Rockville Centre School District

Rockville Centre UFSD has a very successful educational foundation. The current director of the foundation is Delia Garrity who served as the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction. The Rockville Centre Education Foundation supports programs for the RVC Public Schools. The following is the link to their website: <http://rvcedfoundation.org/>

10. Roslyn School District

Roslyn's Educational Foundation R.E.A.D. (Roslyn Educational Advancement and Development) is led by Jason Garmise and Jared Feldman. They have already made significant contributions to the district.

Summary of Results for Charge#1:

1. What other school districts have these foundations? See previous section and Master List in the Appendix. 17% of Nassau County school districts have independent foundations.
2. How are they set up? How do they work? The foundations reviewed are set up as either: Community Based Organizations; 401c; Private Not-For-Profit; 501c3.
3. What kind of programs/projects do they collaborate with the school district to fund? Some of the programs/projects funded included: Middle School ESL - Teaching English through bird watching; Theater Productions; Teacher Mini-Grants; Graduate Scholarships; Installing Wireless Infrastructure within all schools; Laptop and Loan Program for those who cannot afford laptops; Computers; Foreign Language Learning Center – Computers; Robotics; Upgraded Sound System in the Auditorium.
4. What kind of fundraisers have been done to generate funds? Fundraising ideas include: Amazing Race Scavenger (Port Washington); Alumni Reunions (Bethpage); Fashion Show (Carle Place); Dancing with the Teachers (Bethpage); Country Club Gala (Manhasset, Port Washington); Golf Outings (Bethpage). The main theme is to get the community to buy in and participate.

5. What are the Pros & Cons of having a foundation like this in Baldwin?

| Pros | Cons |
|---|---|
| Additional funding for specialized asymmetrical needs | Negligible funding compared to overall budget |
| Community Spirit: Symbiotic with local businesses, schools, residents | No local golf and/or country club(s); no local mall |
| | Redundant |
| | Depletes Volunteer Pool |

Conclusion for Charge#1: The people we contacted were very happy to share their information and their successes/failures. The attached Master List in Appendix #1, provides a good template on which The BoE could pursue creating another educational foundation.

CHARGE#2. Analyze the revenue constraints faced by the district for 2016-17 budget and their implications for proposed expenditure budget.

The committee did not review this Charge.

CHARGE#3. Analyze the results of the exit poll conducted during the 2015-16 Budget Referendum. Revise the questionnaire for the 2016-17 budget. Conduct the poll during the May 2016 referendum and collect the results and create a presentation for the BOE.

The committee members reviewed the 2015 Exit Poll. Attached in the Appendix #2 are the Raw data in PDF format and the compiled analyses of Question#6, Q#9, Q#10 and Q#12. Given the small number of respondents we cannot come to any definite conclusions.

Conclusion for Charge #3: The raw data will provide the BoE members with some insight into the thought process of some of the Baldwin voters. This will serve as the baseline, as the BoE develops the 2016-17 Budget.

Recommendation of Potential Charges for the 2016-2017 BAC Committee

1. Analyze the results of the exit polls and begin a yearly comparison. Present results as needed. Tweak exit polls as required; advertise the importance of this feedback to increase the number of responses. Use a software package to conduct the poll next year.